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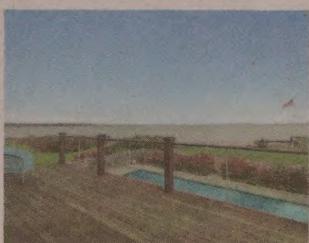
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CONTENTS

FEATURES



14 4 HAMPTONS LIGHTHOUSES

by Dan Rattiner

Montauk, Shinnecock, Cedar Point & Gardiners—and a big shipwreck

11 SOUTH O' THE HIGHWAY

The latest Hamptons celebrity news

12 HAMPTONS SUBWAY

by Dan Rattiner

12 POLICE BLOTER

Compiled by Oliver Peterson

13 PAGE 27

Your route to where the beautiful people play

This issue is dedicated to the Beatles.



18 LOVEYS & AIRPLANES

by Dan Rattiner

New rules about companion dogs and miniature horses on airplanes

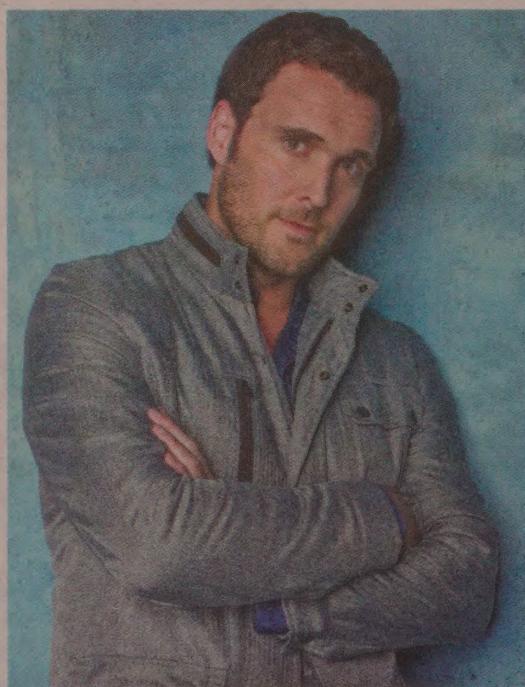
20 HONORING THE ARTIST

Sebastian Blanck

DEPARTMENTS

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

21 PopHampton: Owain Yeoman on Twisty North Fork Thriller *Emergence*



FOOD & DRINK

23 Unraveling the Mystery of Superior Sourcing with Kyle Koenig



LIFESTYLE

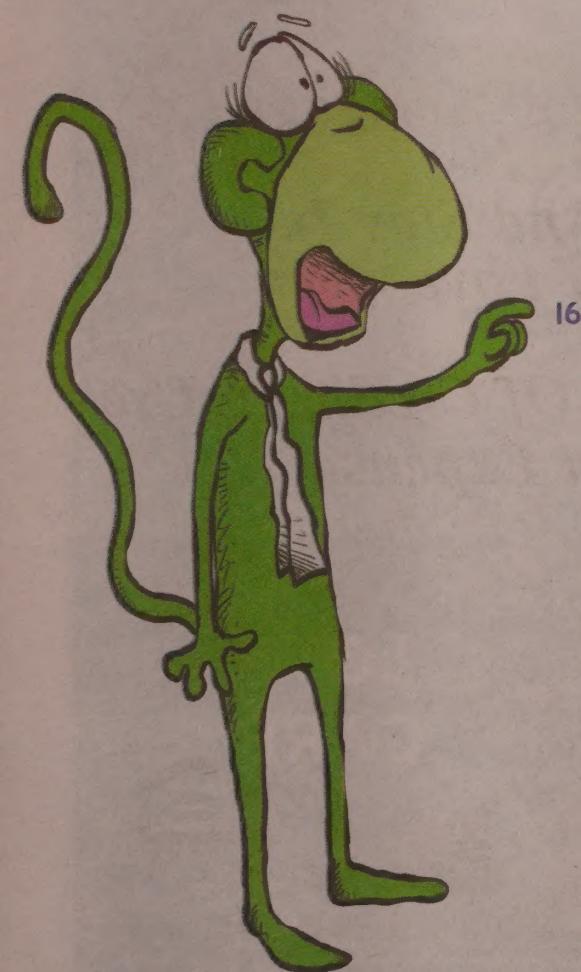
25 What's In, What's Out: 2020 East End Home Décor

REAL ESTATE

35 Real Estate Professionals Look Forward to 2020

26 Service Directory

33 Classifieds



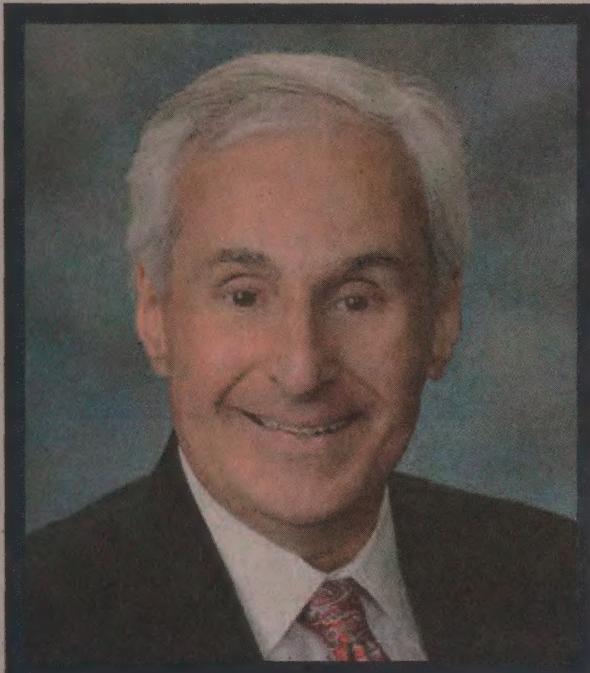
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JANUARY 9–JANUARY 15, 2020

OUT & ABOUT ON THE EAST END

WHAT TO DO. WHERE TO GO. WHERE TO PLAY.



FABIO FERDAGLIO

Westhampton Beach Polar Plunge

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, NOON

Time to dive in! The East End Disability Associates (EEDA) have teamed up with Kelly Russell's Westhampton Beach Middle School Critical Literacy Classes to throw the second annual Polar Plunge at Rogers Beach. Admission to the beach party is \$10, with all proceeds benefitting the EEDA. Larger donations are also accepted.

Rogers Beach, 105 Dune Road, Westhampton Beach. eed-a.org/polar-plunge.html

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OUT & ABOUT ON THE EAST END

WHAT TO DO. WHERE TO GO. WHERE TO PLAY.



FULL MOON HIKE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 6 P.M.

Legend has it that native tribes related this moon to the nighttime howling of wolves. Join SoFo and the Friends of the Long Pond Greenbelt as they embark on a leisurely paced one-hour hike through open-field trails lit by the year's first full moon. After, guests are invited to warm up with light refreshments. This event is free, but registration is required.

*South Fork Natural History Museum (SoFo)
377 Bridgehampton-Sag Harbor Turnpike,
Bridgehampton. 631-537-9735, sofo.org*



THE ARTIST'S VIEW: ARTISTS CHOOSE ARTISTS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 6 P.M.

Join a multigenerational group of artists addressing environmental issues from different vantage points—juror Lillian Ball, Scott Bluedorn, Janet Culbertson and Irina Alimanestianu—as they discuss with ecologist Carl Safina the role of art in drawing attention to these important topics. Tickets to the insightful discussion, moderated by Corinne Erni, are \$12.

*Parrish Art Museum
279 Montauk Highway, Water Mill
631-283-2118, parrishart.org*



DRAWDOWN EAST END FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 11 A.M.-6 P.M.

Spend the day discovering practical solutions to climate health! See the U.S. premiere of *2040*, an Australian environmental film by award-winning director Damon Gameau; learn about plant-based diets, regenerative practices and reducing food waste in conversational forums; and explore a marketplace of green organizations. This event is free, but registration is required.

*Southampton Arts Center
25 Jobs Lane, Southampton
631-283-0967, southamptonartscenter.org*

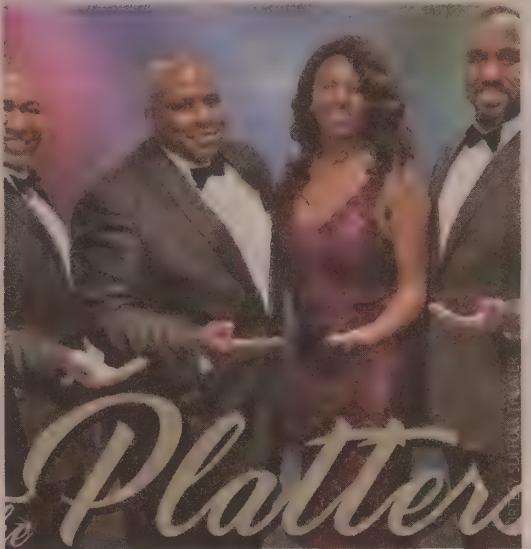


NANCY ATLAS: FIRESIDE SESSIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 8 P.M.

The Fireside Sessions, the epic winter concert series hosted by Bay Street Theater and presented by *Dan's Papers*, continues with Best of the Best Hall of Famer Nancy Atlas, her Nancy Atlas Band and this week's special guests New Orleans piano funk master Brian Mitchell and trombonist Clark Gayton. Tickets are \$35. The series continues through January.

*Bay Street Theater
1 Bay Street, Sag Harbor
631-725-9500, baystreet.org*



THE PLATTERS WITH THE TRADITIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 8 P.M.

Suffolk Theater welcomes back legendary vocal group The Platters—one of the first African-American groups to gain international stardom, with hits including “Only You” and “The Great Pretender.” Opening for The Platters is Long Island’s The Traditions. The restaurant and bar open at 6:30 p.m., and there is a \$10 dining minimum. Tickets are \$52-\$59.

*Suffolk Theater
118 East Main Street, Riverhead
631-727-4343, suffolktheater.com*



EH LIBRARY INTERNATIONAL FILM FEST: "HARMONIA"

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2 P.M.

In this contemporary variation of the biblical story of Abraham, Sarah and Hagar, the women are reimagined as members of the Jerusalem Philharmonic Orchestra, with Abraham serving as its conductor. *Harmonia* uncovers the metaphoric roots of the ancient conflict between the two peoples living in Jerusalem. This event is free, but registration is required.

*East Hampton Library
159 Main Street, East Hampton
631-324-0222 ext. 3, easthamptonlibrary.org*

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RENÉE ZELLWEGER

NICHOLAS HUNT/PMC

Congratulations, **Renée Zellweger!** The Hamptons fan was crowned Best Actress in a Motion Picture, Drama, at the 77th Golden Globes Awards ceremony on Sunday, January 5. Winning the category for her work in *Judy*, in which she played actress Judy Garland, Zellweger bested fellow nominees **Cynthia Erivo** (*Harriet*), **Saoirse Ronan** (*Little Women*), **Charlize Theron** (*Bombshell*) and Amagansett's **Scarlett Johansson** (*Marriage Story*). The award was her fourth Golden Globe win. Water Mill's **Jennifer Lopez** and Amagansett's **Gwyneth Paltrow** presented during the ceremony. Lopez was also nominated for Best Actress in a Supporting Role in Any Motion Picture for her performance in *Hustlers*, though lost to **Laura Dern** (*Marriage Story*).

Happy birthday, **Eli Manning!** The Quogue resident and New York Giants legend turned 39 on January 3. He also received a special birthday gift: the Bart Starr Award. The annual award recognizes an NFL player "who best exemplifies outstanding character and leadership in the home, on the field and in the community." Of being named this year's recipient, Manning told *The New York Post*, "It really is an honor to win this award...It's something I will cherish forever."

So long, **Ellen Pompeo?** The popular *Grey's Anatomy* actress has sold her Sag Harbor home. Pompeo purchased the 2,400-square-foot farmhouse on eight acres for \$925,000 in 2011. After being listed for \$3.79 million in 2017, the property reportedly sold for \$3.2 million in December.

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The Hamptons Subway Newsletter

BY DAN RATTNER

Week of January 9–15, 2019

Riders this past week: 41,922

Rider miles this past week: 111,119

DOWN IN THE TUBE

Here are our most well-read Renée Zellweger sightings in 2019: Amagansett to Montauk at 3:33 p.m., April 17. Montauk to Bridgehampton at 5:58 p.m., April 17. Sag Harbor to Noyack at 11:52 a.m., June 3. Southampton to Shinnecock 3:45 p.m., July 8. Shinnecock to Bridgehampton 10:42 a.m., July 9. Water Mill to Mecox 12:52 p.m., August 4. Georgica to Southampton 11:41 a.m., September 5.

SPOTTERS HOLIDAY

The young interns who serve as “celebrity spotters” on our subway system will be awarded one week off beginning February 3, so if you want to ride the subway without the bother of being reported in these pages, you can do it then.

NEW TRAIN ARRIVALS

A total of five new luxury subway coaches along with five moderately appointed subway

coaches and three barebones subway coaches will arrive by barge from Canada and be in service by February 15 if all goes well. There is no increase or decrease in fares depending on which coach you choose when you cross the platforms, at least now.

ESCALATOR ESCAPADES

Many subway straphangers have complained about fellow subway straphangers, mostly teenagers, running down the down escalators at our stations to catch trains. As a result, we posted signs that read NO RUNNING DOWN THE DOWN ESCALATOR at street level on all our platforms. Unfortunately, these signs were taken down by thieves within days after they were put up, which resulted in our repeatedly having to put up new signs. When the thievery didn't let up, we then instigated the stop-and-frisk searches that all you folks complained about in September so we stopped that after just a week. Now we are trying something new. It's a three-pronged approach. There are no more NO RUNNING DOWN THE DOWN ESCALATOR signs. Instead, we have installed signs reading NO RUNNING DOWN THE UP DOWN ESCALATOR at the street level. And so far this has worked. Our new

marketing director, Fred Friendly, has met with Commissioner Aspinall about all this and is now getting ready to institute running down the up escalator races between six and seven am when nobody is using the up escalators because the passengers are all heading down when we open up in the morning for that hour. Mr. Friendly thinks this would be a nice gesture for the young people and maybe we'd even get some of those earlier signs they stole back. Winning record times and the name of the kid who did it will be posted every evening at every platform's up escalator so the kids will see it the next morning when they come in to strut their stuff the next day.

WOOD PANELED BAR

Several members of our maintenance crew who work cleaning up the tunnels and platforms every night when the subway is not running used sledge hammers to break through a padlock on the steel entry door to a previously unknown storage room in the tunnel between Southampton and Water Mill. Inside, they have found an Irish bar in perfect condition, apparently imported timber by timber from somewhere in Ireland in the year 1927. A calendar from Tipperary on the wall shows that date. Seems it was used by the staff during at least one of those prohibition years. We are trying to find out which Irish bar went missing back then that came ashore over here. All the liquor was in good condition. We hope to return it to where it came from.

COMMISSIONER ASPINALL'S MESSAGE

The Commissioner went on vacation on New Year's Eve and has not been heard from since. ☕

considering this absurdly warm weather.”

To curtail any future problems, Gallant says the HPD will be erecting signs throughout all South Fork towns, villages and hamlets, letting people know it's still winter.

MCGUMBUS RETURNS, FINDS BUNKER GONE

In other news, infamous Shelter Island troublemaker Old Man McGumbus returned on Tuesday from what was surely a debauched journey at sea with Florida Man aboard a yacht owned by legendary wrestler Lieutenant Bloodlust, aka Francis Balanger. Unfortunately for the 103-year-old former WWII weaponized tank tread technician, after nearly six months rampaging across the world's oceans, McGumbus found his underground bunker, which had been his home since at least 2015, washed out to sea.

“Perhaps Mr. McGumbus will be a little less vocal about climate change being a hoax,” Hamptons Police Chief Science Officer Ray Gruberbloch. “To be honest, we're all a bit worried now that he's lost his little redoubt and will likely be spending more time above ground—which is not where anyone wants him.” ☕

Police BLOTTER

BY OLIVER PETERSON

UNEXPECTED WINTER WEATHER PROBLEMS

The Hamptons Police Department reports that the unseasonably warm weather has led to a certain level of chaos since just before Christmas. According to HPD spokesman Rex Gallant, multiple “less sharp-minded” locals required assistance in recent weeks due to their unwavering belief that it's springtime.

“We're incredibly uncomfortable with the number of people ignoring dress codes and wearing shorts on village streets, despite the fact that they're not permitted to do so in December and January,” Gallant explained. “It's really quite

unseemly, people showing off their knees and calves in the winter months, and we've ticketed them accordingly.”

Further, East Hampton's Ancient Order of Clammers & Oystermen attempted to launch their annual Spring Mollusk Fair on Newtown Lane last weekend, causing unexpected traffic and much confusion among pedestrians. Residents who look forward to the fair each May were left frustrated by the thought that they may have missed it, but they need not worry. Thankfully, Gallant says his Department sent officers to stop the fair's setup and they managed to clear the roads by noon on Saturday.

“To be clear, this was a giant misunderstanding,” Gallant explained: “The Spring Mollusk Fair did not actually open, and it will still run as scheduled this May.” In the meantime, Eddie “Clam Rake” Bennett has been removed from his post as AOCO president, a position he's held since 1963. “It was a sad day for the Ancient Order of Clammers & Oystermen, but the old man will remain an active member in good standing,” he continued. “Clam Rake just got a bit confused is all, which is understandable,

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Page
27



1. Pete Topping, Sarah Topping
2. Nancy Atlas and special guest Simon Kirke
3. Karen Saunders, Angela LaGreca, Lisa Tamburini
4. Torr Marro, Steve McKenna, Jay Decker
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4 Hamptons Lighthouses

Montauk, Shinnecock, Cedar Point & Gardiners—and a Big Shipwreck

BY DAN RATTINER

When you think about the main attractions in the Hamptons, what likely comes to mind are the Montauk Lighthouse and the 12 English windmills that are found in East Hampton and Southampton Towns. But did you know that if you came here in 1870, when the first summer people arrived, there were four lighthouses? In fact, the existence of the four lighthouses actually caused the worst shipwreck to ever take place in the Hamptons, the wreck of the three-masted schooner *John Milton*.

The first was, of course, Montauk Light, standing 110 feet high on an 85-foot cliff at the very end of Long Island. It is the one we all know and take our children to see. Commissioned by George Washington in 1792, just a decade after the final surrender of the British at Yorktown, it has had a long and successful career in keeping watercraft safely clear of the Point. There have been fishing boats and other small craft that have come ashore in storms with their passengers and crew glad to see the lighthouse keeper and his or her mates help them to safety.

After Montauk, two lighthouses were built in the Hamptons to guide mariners through Gardiners Bay and Peconic Bay. The first was the Cedar Point Lighthouse, constructed in 1868 on a small dry island at the end of a curving, often-underwater peninsula leading out from the small community of Cedar Point. A Foursquare building in the Italianate style, it was built of granite in a design that made it look like a three-story home, which it was for the keeper and his family and helpers. The home was 40 feet high and on its roof was a 14-foot-tall glass cage holding a sixth-order Fresnel lens that could send a flashing green light visible from five miles off.

The third lighthouse was built on a 14-acre peninsula that jutted out from Gardiner's Island, the oldest and largest private island in America, and still owned by the Gardiner family to this day. The lighthouse went into service in 1855 after testimony given by



Shinnecock Lighthouse, just 32 miles west of Montauk, was destroyed by dynamite. The lighthouse had been abandoned for years after it had outlived its usefulness, and the historic building was destroyed by the dynamiting. A great furor followed the dynamiting

of the Shinnecock lighthouse since there had been no public debate about blowing it up. Everyone assumed the building to be a historical monument. However, since the job had already been done and the lighthouse lay in ruins, there was little the public could do. This remarkable photo

was taken by a government photographer moments before the beautiful brick structure fell to earth. (A complete story of the Shinnecock house appears on page 9.) There is fear that the Montauk Lighthouse will suffer a similar fate if it outlives its usefulness in the near future.

which constantly tear at the cliff wall, peeling the rock away and causing the wall down to the

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local people to the National Lighthouse Board—there was a Lighthouse Board—on the need for such a lighthouse.

In researching for this article, I came across the testimony of local East Hampton resident Lewis Edwards at the hearings:

Question: So you Mr. Edwards have lived on Gardiners Island for more than 15 years?

Edwards: Yes sir. Seventeen. Employed by Mr. Gardiner.

Question: And during your time, can you describe if there were any shipwrecks that happened on the island?

Edwards remembers 13, gives the ship names where he remembers them, how many people were rescued and so forth and so on.

After Gardiners Island, the fourth lighthouse in the Hamptons, the Shinnecock Light, was built high on the mainland shore of Hampton Bays because nobody trusted that the barrier island of Dune Road on the ocean would be sturdy and safe enough for a lighthouse in severe weather.

At 168 feet, it was the 10th tallest lighthouse in the world. And it was built and put into operation because the distance between the Montauk Lighthouse and the next lighthouse going west at Fire Island was 67 miles, and the Lighthouse Board felt this distance was too great to go unprotected so, somewhere in between a lighthouse was needed to cast a light for ships crossing the ocean between New York City and Europe.

This lighthouse became operational on January 1, 1858. Forty-nine days later came the crash of the four-masted schooner *John Milton* into the cliffs and rocks five miles to the west of the Montauk Light, killing all 33 people on board.

By this time, all four lighthouses in the Hamptons were shining their lights. The lighthouses at Cedar Point and Gardiners Island played no part in this disaster because their lights were not visible from the ocean. But the new Shinnecock Light, some believe, confused the captain of the *John Milton*, Ephriam Harding. He had been sailing up the Atlantic coast bound

for New York City with a load of guano on board, which he had picked up in Peru after going around the horn from San Francisco. Approaching Long Island from the south, however, he ran into a vicious winter snowstorm, which he decided would make a run to the west to the docks at New York difficult, and so instead turned his ship east to round Montauk and approach the city through Long Island Sound.

Traveling in a strong wind under full sail, he passed the Fire Island Lighthouse on his port side and soon thereafter saw what he thought was the Montauk Light. In fact, it was the brand new Shinnecock Light and, because news traveled slow back then, he did not know it had been built. Nevertheless, he'd give this "Montauk Light" a wide berth, so went way out to sea to curve around it, and simply did not see the rocks and

cliff at Ditch Plains until it was too late.

The *John Milton* crashed into the rocks and instantly broke in two spilling cargo everywhere and killing all on board, either from the shock of it, the freezing waters they fell into or what they got hit by when the ship disintegrated.

The Montauk Lighthouse keeper, his wife and their few assistants knew nothing of the wreck. But in the morning light of February 20, a member of the Stratton family, the innkeeper at the Third House Inn, saw the shipwreck while on horseback cantering along the beach. Bodies frozen solid in this winter storm had washed ashore, some alone, others in ghastly embrace with shipmates. There were 22 in all, including a boy, the son of the captain; 11 others were never found. The good people of East Hampton collected the bodies and (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

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Lighthouses (CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

held the grim funeral for those who died, lining their coffins up on the town green. After Christian sermons, they buried them in a common grave in the graveyard there. The ship's bell was put up in the belfry of the Presbyterian church.

So there were four lighthouses, and today just one. What happened to the other three?

A great nor'easter, called the Great Blizzard of 1888, caused a break in the Gardiners Island peninsula that never healed. The 14-acre peninsula was now a 12-acre island, and as the waters continued to rise and the island was shrinking at the rate of 10 feet a year, it was decided in 1893 to abandon the Gardiners Island Lighthouse. Waters soon flooded it. Five years later, the U.S. government, edging toward war with Spain, decided to mount cannons on the ruined lighthouse walls, call it Fort Tyler and turn it into a military base to fend off the Spanish fleet if they ever tried to invade Long Island, which they never did. In the 1920s, after the First World War, the ruined fort/lighthouse was used for target practice by U.S. Army aircraft. Mostly underwater rubble today, it is called "the Ruins" on charts, and mariners are asked to stay away to avoid what might be unexploded ordinance.

Beginning around 1925, with telephone, telegraph and wireless in common use for navigation, the Coast Guard decided to decommission many lighthouses around the country and replace them with tall steel towers with lights run remotely atop them. It was a cost-cutting measure.

The Cedar Island Light was decommissioned



MONTAUK LIGHTHOUSE

and then abandoned in 1934. The peninsula, unlike the one at Gardiners Island, rose higher out of the water and became a road. It became a private home for a while, but soon was abandoned again to become a ruin, sometimes with graffiti on it. In recent years, however, it has received a historic landmark designation, and the county now owns it and hopes to make it into a publicly owned bed and breakfast. No steel tower was ever built there.

In Hampton Bays, however, the Shinnecock Light was abandoned also in 1934, and a 75-foot tower with the blinking light on top was built nearby to replace it. It was scheduled for demolition because at its great height it was felt it would be a hazard if it ever fell. Then came the Hurricane of 1938 and the Shinnecock Lighthouse stood tall, but the great steel tower came crashing down.

Nevertheless, with a new steel tower put up,

the Coast Guard did decide, over protests, to take the lighthouse down anyway. It happened in 1948. Huge wooden beams were brought in and slid through holes punched 10 feet up in the brick to make a wooden "floor" at that level. Then enormous wooden posts were placed inside of the lighthouse to hold up the wooden floor. With that all in place, all the brickwork below the wooden floor on one side was removed and the wooden structure set on fire, and when it burned up, the lighthouse collapsed on the side where there were neither bricks nor wood to support it.

A photo of that lighthouse, its bottom now tipped and its upper level falling away further in a puff of white smoke, shows what happened during the moment the lighthouse fell.

In 1967, I learned that the Coast Guard planned to decommission the Montauk Lighthouse, put the light high up in a steel tower further back from the edge of the cliff, and take down our last remaining lighthouse. I published that picture of the Shinnecock Lighthouse on the front page of *The Montauk Pioneer* in 1967 under a headline reading LIGHTHOUSE DYNAMITED. I organized a protest on the Montauk Lighthouse grounds and thousands attended. And the Coast Guard changed its mind and decided to keep Montauk Light where it was, and keep it manned for many more years. Today Montauk Lighthouse property is owned by the U.S. government, but the lighthouse is leased to the Montauk Historical Society. Visitors are welcome. You can contact the Montauk Lighthouse at 631-668-2544 or visit montauklighthouse.com. 



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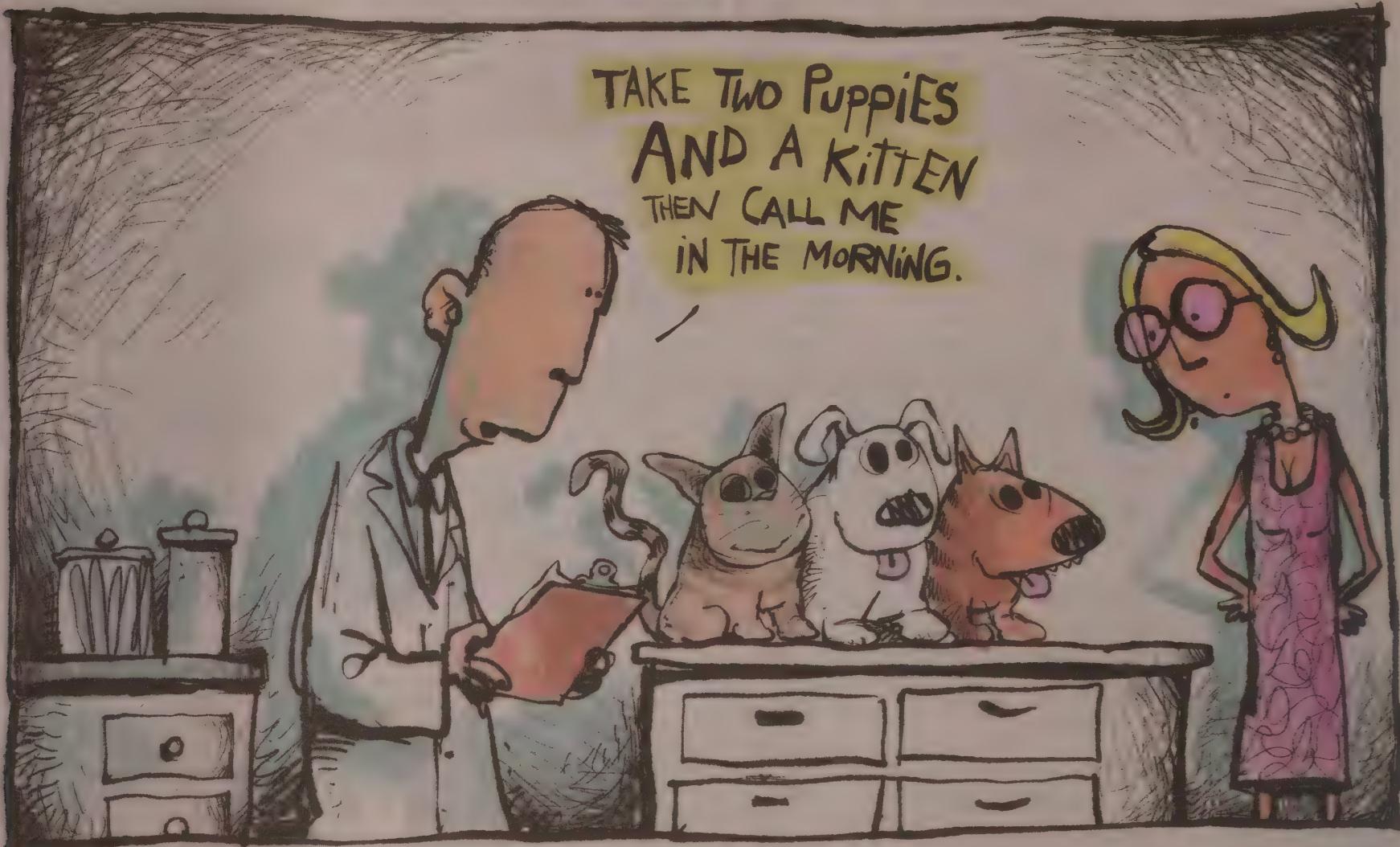
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Loveys & Airplanes

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TAKE TWO PUPPIES
AND A KITTEN
THEN CALL ME
IN THE MORNING.



BY DAN RATTINER

My wife and I have flown to faraway places from time to time and on occasion have taken our small dog with us. Not long ago this meant showing up at the terminal with the dog in a carrier and that was it. Now, it turns out, you need a permission slip from your doctor that says you suffer from anxiety, are in treatment for anxiety and you've been prescribed a companion dog.

I think this situation has come about because people have been abusing the privilege of flying with a dog. Snakes have gotten loose on planes. People have shown up with monkeys and lizards. Somebody gets bit. Pay the money and private companies will issue you an "official" companion dog coat.

I get uneasy when I'm on an airplane. It's so big and heavy. Doesn't seem possible that it could fly, even if it spreads its wings and gallops down the runway as fast as its little wheels can carry it. So I don't know what I will do. Our dog, Bella, is 15 pounds. A warm and snuggly sweetheart. The form from JetBlue says your doctor should check off one of the following: dog, cat, miniature horse or other. Yes, miniature horse.

Anyway, at dinner the other night, we all got to talking about this. And it occurred to me that what we are really talking about is a lovey. Many

little kids today now go to bed with little stuffed bears or rabbits. At bedtime, they toddle around, thumb in mouth, stuffed animal clutched tightly to their chests. They're both ready to go.

But adults don't have loveys. Maybe when planes start rushing down a runway, Jet Blue and the others could hand out loveys, but I doubt it. It also won't work, because what certain adults need at that moment is something live you can cuddle with that came on the airplane with you. And it can't be the adult sitting next to you. It's just not good manners.

I asked around the table one night if anybody had a lovey as a child. We are all older people. None of us had one.

"I had something on my bedroom ceiling that made me feel safe," one of our guests said. "I'd look up at it when I got tucked into bed. It was a snare drum, like the ones the little drummer boys play in the *Nutcracker*, but made out of frosted glass. It was bolted up there as a light fixture. One evening, when I was about eleven, I got in bed and it wasn't there anymore. In its place was a regular light fixture. I was terrified. I told my mom I wanted the snare drum, and she said I was too old for the snare drum. When I persisted she said she had given it away."

"I used to go out into the garden and pick up two rocks to go to bed with, one for each hand," another person said. "I'd

return them to the garden in the morning."

That was a conversation stopper.

"I loved those rocks," the person concluded.

None of us raised our children in the 1990s with loveys, either. They did nevertheless grow up strong and straight.

It was only after that that loveys came into general use. We tried to pinpoint the year and thought it was 1998.

"What we did have when all of us were kids," I added, "was when we were 6 years old, our parents took us to the hospital and they took our tonsils out. Now kids don't get their tonsils out."

We seemed to be able to pinpoint a time, perhaps in the 1980s, when doctors changed their minds about taking tonsils out.

"Maybe the two events were related," someone said. "Tonsils out didn't work, so the doctors said loveys."

Should have done it sooner, was the general consensus.

"They strapped us down, put rubber masks over our noses and mouths and put us to sleep with chloroform or ether. Afterwards, we had sore throats for days," someone said.

Which leads us today to snakes on a plane, miniature horses and instructions from a doctor.

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HONORING *the* ARTIST

This Week's Cover Artist: Sebastian Blanck

“Being an artist was never a choice for me,” says this week’s cover artist, Sebastian Blanck. “I can’t remember a time in my life when I wasn’t making things.” Having been exposed to art at a young age by his mother, Blanck has been creating his entire life.

WHAT WAS THE INSPIRATION FOR THIS PIECE?

I am inspired by daily life and my work is loosely a journal. I show the quiet moments in life. Images that I think are beautiful and that I want to share with the world. This painting, “Cobalt Sky,” is based on a day I spent sledding with my two sons in the Hudson River Valley. It is one of the larger paintings in an ongoing series of snow scenes. It was part of a show I had in Aspen, Colorado a couple of years ago at Baldwin Gallery, titled “Weather Window.” I think a lot about how to best marry an image with the materials I’m using. In this oil painting, the white of the snow is also the white I used to prime the canvas. The vibrant color of the sky is cobalt blue with a touch of manganese blue. The sky acts as negative space against the form of the hillside, which is mostly unpainted, other than a few shadows and the tracks of the boys walking through the snow. Ideally my goal in any painting is to have the first touch be the last touch. So the paint is as fresh and alive as it can be. I want each mark to be like tracks in the snow, and I want the image to feel fresh and effortless.

TALK ABOUT YOUR ARTISTIC PROCESS.

Like most people, I take a lot of photos in my day-to-day. The difference is that I turn many of those images into paintings, drawings, collages, and monoprints. I work fairly quickly—I aim to make a painting a day. The methods that I use are all related. For example, I just finished a series of large charcoal drawings of my wife in a sunhat, with light filtering through the hat onto her face. My approach for these drawings is creating a mid-tone gray over the whole sheet of paper first. Then I erase out the lightest

tone to describe the pattern of dappled light on her face. After the highlights are brought out, I develop the darker tones and draw in greater detail. I deepen the shadows and darker aspects of the figure and landscape around her. It’s a very physical process. Some of the drawings are quite large, with the largest ones being 55x45 inches. This was a tactic I developed first in collage pieces. This is one of a number of ongoing series that I return to often, which include



figures in the snow, children at aquariums, portraits of artist and musicians. Often I re-use an image, making it into a collage, then a painting, then a monoprint. The shift in materials and technique allows me to use the imagery in related but different ways.

WHERE DO YOU GET INSPIRATION FOR YOUR ART?

There are so many things that feed me artistically. Sometimes it’s a moment with someone that I think has a certain magic. Sometimes it’s trying to learn how to work with a new material. I never go to studio and feel like I’m out of ideas or things to paint. I find the more I work, the more ideas I have. My wife and children are my favorite subjects to paint. Luckily for me they are willing models. ☺

Read the full interview with Sebastian Blanck at [DansPapers.com](http://danspapers.com). See more of Blanck's work at sebastianblanck.com and on Instagram @sebastianblanck.

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Arts & Entertainment



Owain Yeoman on Twisty North Fork Thriller "Emergence"

On ABC's new thriller *Emergence*, the quaint North Fork community of Southold is rocked by an Earth-shattering mystery when a little girl with amnesia (played by Alexa Swinton) is the sole survivor of a plane crash on the beach. Police Chief Jo Evans (Allison Tolman) takes her in, calls her Piper, and begins investigating the crash and Piper's identity. It's quickly revealed that Piper is actually an advanced form of artificial intelligence (AI), capable of learning at a rapid pace and manipulating metal objects. Jo soon finds herself reluctantly working in tandem with journalist Benny Gallagher (Owain Yeoman) after it becomes clear that powerful and sinister forces will stop at nothing to take Piper and use her for their own agendas.

At the end of the midseason finale in December, *Emergence* aired perhaps its biggest twist yet when Benny, who had gained Jo's trust and friendship, was revealed to be AI himself and kidnapped Piper. The stunning revelation turned the show on its head. Yeoman, who has played Benny with a friendliness and disarming charm, is happy that the twist surprised audiences and got them talking, noting that he knew from the start Benny was not what he seemed. "Different actors like to have different amounts of information," Yeoman says. "Tara [Butters] and Michele [Fazekas], our wonderful creators, said to me, 'How much do you want to know ahead of time?' and I said, 'You know what, give me the broad strokes,' and I think this show is so effective because it has such a clear roadmap of where they want to go."

Butters and Fazekas have outlined the story for three seasons, and it shows. *Emergence* has been consistent with doling out answers to the audience, then pulling

the rug out with new twists and turns that feel very planned and deliberate. "It was always going to be a 13-episode season," Yeoman explains, "and there was never any conversation of it being longer. They wanted to keep the mystery/thriller element of it very taut. That's very smart, because when it first came out, people said, 'Oh, it's another *Lost*.' There's always the temptation to put these genre shows into this *Lost*-alike [category], and sure, but it's more than that. It's not just *Lost*, it's not just *Stranger Things*. It's an entirely new incarnation of its own, and when we got into discussions about the character of Benny, they said, 'This is what Benny's all about, this is what he turns out to be, this is where he's going and if you want to factor that in or not...' and I think in terms of the big reveal at the end of Episode 9, it's something I always knew about but something I also thought, if we're going to play this most effectively, let's just completely ignore it—and from reactions to the episode, nobody saw it coming!"

Yeoman is excited for audiences to see the final episodes of the season. "Even though most people jumped on the bandwagon and said, 'Oh no, Benny's the bad guy!' I say never assume that. There's a

lot of nuance and we're going to keep upsetting the preconceived ideas and that's what keeps people guessing and keeps things fresh. In the four episodes we have to round out the season, I don't think it's unfair for me to say that it's going to take on a whole new level of crazy. By the end of the season, people will be quite shocked at where it will go."

Part of the show's appeal is that in addition to the conspiracy/thriller element, it's also about Jo's loving family, including dad Ed (Clancy Brown), ex-husband Alex (Donald Faison) and daughter Mia (Ashley Aufderheide). "Of course there's the genre element there, but at the heart of it there's this amazing family dramedy of a divorced couple trying to make their way," Yeoman says. "There's a lot of people here and there's a lot at stake and whether it's on a personal level or a huge 'What could this do to our world?' level, I feel like it really managed to hit so many different notes and didn't feel like anything I could

think of. I think the breadth of appeal is enormous."



Emergence airs Tuesday nights at 10 p.m. on ABC. Catch up on the first season on-demand and on Hulu.

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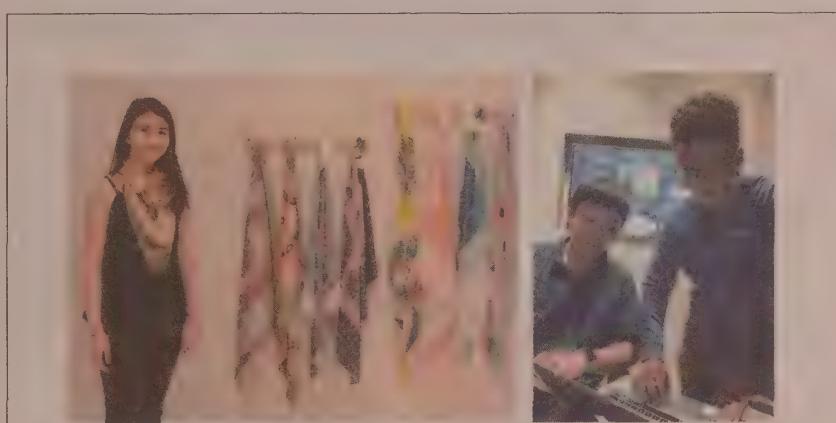
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Food & Drink



Unraveling the Mystery of Superior Sourcing with Kyle Koenig

Frigid. That is the only word to aptly describe the temperature outside the cargo area at Islip's MacArthur Airport. A careful listener might pick up nearby utterances of more colorful phrases involving brass monkeys or meat lockers. They aren't quite appropriate. Although that one about the meat locker....

Persimmons hang like holiday ornaments from windows and walls on the second floor of Riverhead's Preston House & Hotel. Drying in a Japanese tradition going back centuries, they are intriguing to behold, certainly, and have a certain exotic flair about them. But new Executive Chef Kyle Koenig does nothing for the mere appearance of it. As he gives one a light squeeze, he reveals that the fruits will eventually find their way into various treats for lucky guests. "I'm not sure how many people have tried them," he says, "but I'd like them to be able to do it here."

Everything about Koenig's demeanor, his approach, emanates a dedication to deliciousness to which he hopes to expose, well, everyone he meets. "I just learned that, being a Scorpio, apparently I am unbelievably eager to please people," he says. "I was reading that and started laughing. Maybe that has something to do with it."

Koenig is making a homecoming of sorts to the East End, having worked with Tom Colicchio as Chef de Cuisine when Bridgehampton's Topping Rose House first opened its doors in 2010. He left to rejoin Colicchio as Chef de Cuisine at New York City's Craft in 2015, and now a journey that began at the Culinary Institute of America, an externship at Thomas Keller's Bouchon in Napa Valley and...wait, we are getting



KYLE KOENIG IN THE PRESTON HOUSE KITCHEN

ahead of ourselves. Let's pause a moment.

A love of food, a feeling for the importance of where it comes from and how it is prepared and presented, what it can mean to people, can be traced back to the chef's Texas youth. "I think a lot of it comes from my grandparents," he says. "On my mother's side, they were farmers. They had 120 acres—corn, cattle, cotton. My grandfather would deliver his own vegetables in and out of Houston to sell—a farmers market before there were farmers markets.

"My father's parents were foodies before that was a term," he goes on. "They had a huge garden—tomatoes, cucumbers, beans, carrots, etcetera—were always making homemade sausages, sending me up in trees to pick the pecans for pie. We'd go down to Fredericksburg to get peaches. We would get 50 cases, and then my grandparents would stand there for days, peel them and bag them, and that was for people to stop by and buy them. The sausages were the same thing—they were for people to come by and buy. My grandfather just enjoyed doing things for other people."

Koenig steps from his truck, through the icy air and into the cargo pickup area, in search of his package. Southwest Airlines is running a bit behind schedule, and awaiting its arrival, the anticipation feels almost illicit.

Farm-to-table and dock-to-dish were not concepts invented on the East End, but the ferocity with which chefs and diners have embraced the locavore movement is as strong here as anywhere. While at Topping Rose, Koenig met (CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Food & Drink

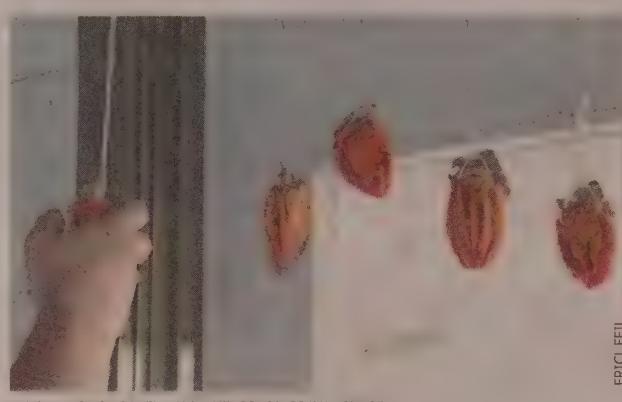
Koenig (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23)

all the farmers, learned about the seasonality, about what vegetables were locally available when, what fish to serve during what month, an education he carries with him. "That was all very much getting me ready to be a chef out here, so maybe all things kind of led this way."

Now that Koenig has planted his roots firmly in East End earth, it feels only appropriate that the home where he lives with his wife, Jessica—the beverage director at The Preston House—and their two children has nestled him among the bucolic farms and wine country vineyards that define the region. "We love the North Fork very much," he notes, "and I don't think anyone has really explored and gotten to the bottom of all of what this area has to truly offer. There are a lot more farms, a lot more produce, a lot more land and a lot more people doing a lot more things than we know. We're going to start tapping into that more."

Were he in Montauk, it would be hard from him to stay away from regular visits to Gosman's, still one of his favorite spots to select seafood. Here in Cutchogue, he just so happens to be able to pass by Braun Seafood Co. every day on his way to work. Let's be honest, not just pass by, but stop in every chance he gets for a first-hand greeting with the fish he'll be putting on your plate.

The smell of sea thick around him, Koenig walks past tuna loins and swordfish and tilefish, rooms stacked with oysters of varying shapes and sizes, pools filled with lobsters, and you can see his mind working on dishes that do not yet exist. This is Willy Wonka's factory for the shells-and-scales set. He spies some scallops, which were not on his original list but will now work their way onto tonight's menu. They are from Peru, yet he hopes they will delight diners who



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ask me, after dinner, which bowl was clean."

He gets quiet for a moment, eyes not as dry as when he began.

"I never got to tell my grandfather that story. He passed away a year ago."

In The Preston House kitchen, Koenig unboxes his cargo. The cardboard is slit and pulled back, revealing the treasure that has journeyed from the Midland Meat Company in Texas to this countertop in Riverhead. As far as we can figure, only one other chef in the country would be able to receive such a shipment. All others, get in your car, drive down to the Lone Star State and pick it up yourself.

"Wagyu."

Red and rich, marbling running like a map of some West Texas town filled with endless back roads and rivers leading everywhere at once. Koenig handles it with a certain respect, you could even say reverence. He slices with a surgeon's precision while looking with an artist's eye at the flatiron steak yet to be.

"Wagyu."

The way he says it, it's not so much an introduction as a conjuring.

"There really is nothing else like this," Koenig says. "It's really the best I've ever found. Is it more effort to get it here? Yes. Is it worth it? Absolutely. I want people to be able to taste this, to experience this."

He steps back and gives his head the subtlest of shakes as if rousing himself from a fugue. He looks around the kitchen, then out the door at a few arriving guests who most likely have no idea what's in store. .

"Now I have to get to work."

BY ERIC FELI

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What's in, What's Out: 2020 East End Home Décor Trends

Remember when brightly colored shag carpets, wallpaper borders and beanbag chairs were in vogue? With each passing year, home décor trends come and go, so keeping up with what's in and what's out can be difficult. Thankfully, our expert East End interior designers and home stagers are happy to share their 2020 predictions, helping us keep our Hamptons and North Fork homes looking trendy all year.

WHAT'S IN FOR EAST END HOMES IN 2020?

We think there will be more color and floral or botanical themes introduced in fabrics and a continuation of sustainable fabrics and furniture as well as crypton-type performance fabrics, for easy cleaning and wearability. We see some painted cabinets for kitchens and gold and brass finishes for handles and plumbing fixtures. We'll continue to see deep soaking tubs in bathrooms and more integrated lighting—motion detector lighting under the vanity, for instance. We think stone will turn to warmer hues, using travertine and quartzite. For furniture, we see mid-century modern trending as it incorporates clean and simple lines reflecting our clients' need for simple life on the East End...However, we do see a mix of modern, eclectic and traditional pieces working together for a cohesive design.—**Diane Bianchini, Dream Windows & Interiors**

An eclectic mix of styles! Clean lines will still be important, but antiques or pieces with the appearance of age or patina will be mixed with the modern, creating a more welcoming environment...One of the new big trends I'm seeing is the use of jewel tones. Deeper blues and teals could start appearing on the East End,



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as the influence of the '70s is appearing in showrooms.—**Shannon Willey, Sea Green Designs**

We'll see more natural materials and earth tones used in design finishes and furnishings. Everything from lighting to furniture accents, which will include wood grains and light metals throughout the home. With a desire to connect with nature, what has been typically utilized in outdoor décor has moved inside the home.—**Susan Orioli, NoFo Real Estate**

The use of natural, modern and organic elements such as wicker, rattan, bamboo, metal, jute, sisal, natural stone and even driftwood table bases reminiscent of the '70s. Lots of texture! It's a softer, more curvilinear look than the modern trend we've

seen in recent years...We've been in a flux time as far as metal finishes go. For example, cabinet and bathroom hardware and light fixtures have seen a trend from polished chrome to satin or brushed gold over the last few years. I still see black and bronze being popular as well. However, I predict this year we will see the use of mixed metal finishes.—**Allegra Dioguardi, Styled and Sold Inc.**

WHAT'S OUT FOR EAST END HOMES IN 2020?

We think gray will finally be trending out, and farmhouse design has had its day.—**Diane Bianchini, Dream Windows & Interiors**

Gray floors are being replaced by white or natural stains and warm brown tones—same with furniture finishes and fabrics.—**Shannon Willey, Sea Green Designs**

A design trend that will be out on the East End is the traditional dining table in the kitchen or even the elimination of the formal dining room. Many homebuyers on the East End are seeking more relaxed, comfortable seating and a more casual eating space to feel relaxed, and, thus, they may opt to convert the formal dining room for another use. White subway tile has been overused recently in new builds and renovations, and it will become less popular in 2020.—**Susan Orioli, NoFo Real Estate**

I see a trend moving away from true grays and toward warmer neutrals such as beige, tans and warmer grays in 2020.—**Allegra Dioguardi, Styled and Sold Inc.**



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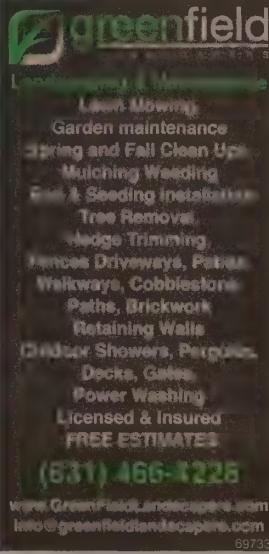
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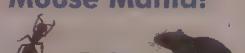
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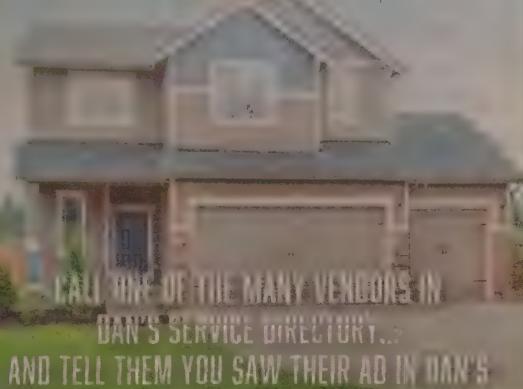
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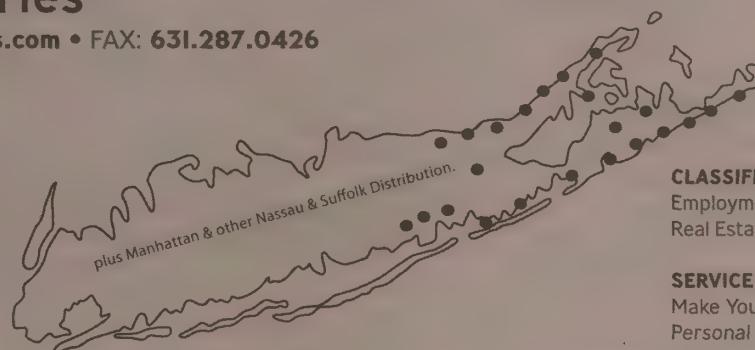
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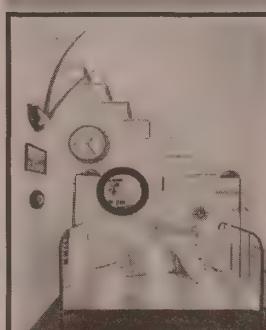
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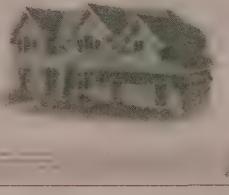
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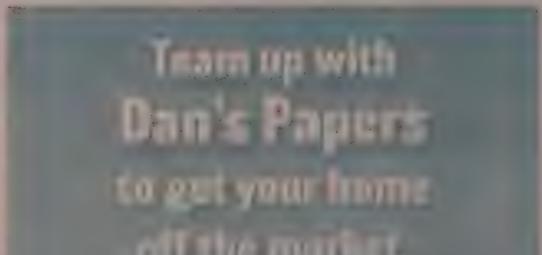
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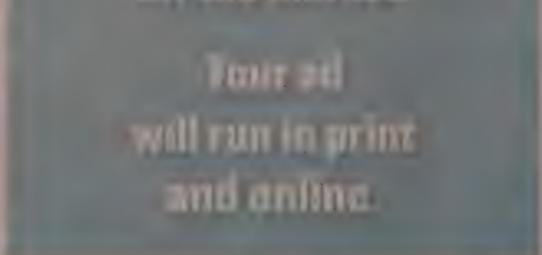
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Real Estate Professionals Look Forward to 2020

Hamptons real estate professionals reflect on the past year and look ahead to 2020, from expectations to predictions and more.

I think the biggest surprise was the new rental law that doesn't understand how short term and seasonal rentals work in many parts of New York State and the effects it has on both homeowners and tenants. It unfortunately didn't think through the implications it would have on our market and hopefully will soon be rectified. Secondly, the increase in movement of the luxury home segment. As we progress into 2020 and onward, the next decade will continue to see shifts in the way real estate business is transacted and the way buyer search for their properties. We must embrace these changes and challenges to continue to better serve our clients.—**Doug Sabo, Nest Seekers International**

What has remained surprising in 2019 is the fact that there is so much money in the stock market, mortgage rates continue to be historically low, and yet the luxury market in the Hamptons (and overall in the Hamptons) was not as robust as one would expect.

It's apparent that buyers just don't want to overpay in a softening market for a discretionary vacation home, especially with such a slowdown in the Manhattan market. Sellers who priced their homes to sell, however, had much better luck at getting to the closing table. Some buyers are still waiting for the market to go down even more to get better deals. What I've learned in this business is that you just can't time the market. By waiting, you can miss out on some amazing opportunities.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)



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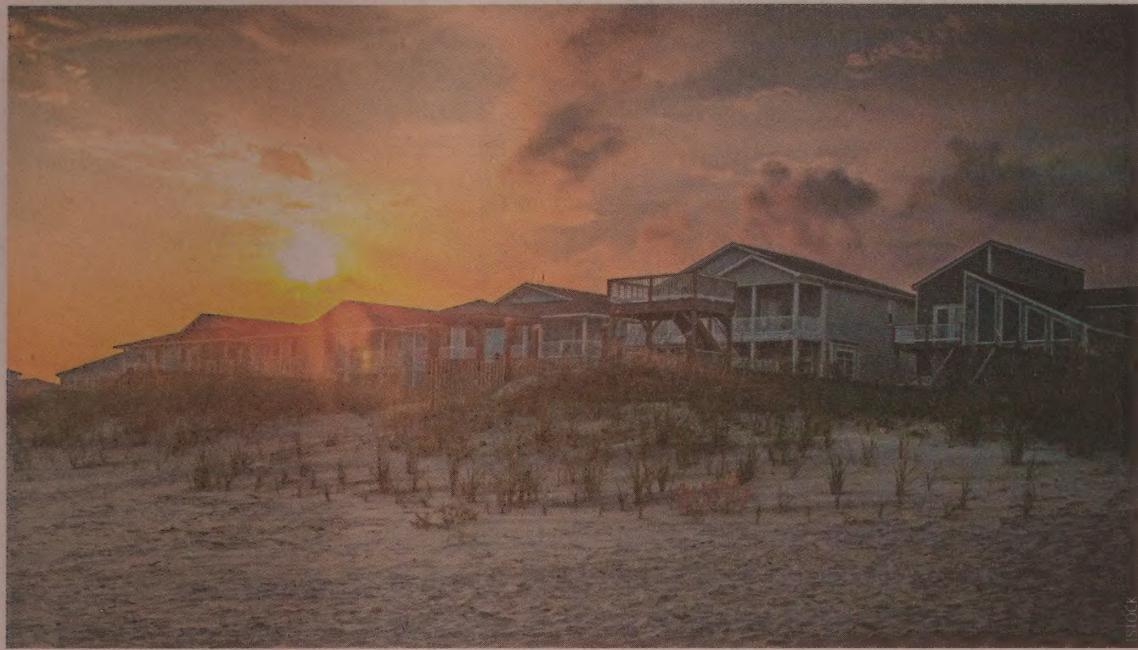
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2019/2020 (CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)



I think buyers are starting to realize that. While the first three business quarters were down by double digits, the fourth quarter—normally a slow selling time—has been surprisingly very active. Hopefully, this is a good omen for kicking off 2020!—**Aimee Martin, Saunders & Associates**

The biggest surprise was the amount of new inventory, despite a more sluggish market earlier in the year. New construction is in demand, as are homes that are priced right.

Homes that are lightly used but dated are competing with these newer houses, and they are only really moving when they are being offered at the correct value. If the house isn't redone or updated, it will lag on the market or eventually sell for a deep discount. On the positive side, for very patient buyers, you can pick up a larger house, in a better location and on a bigger property for less money if the seller overprices and refuses to transact until it becomes a necessity.—**Aaron Curti, Douglas Elliman**

2019 was a great year, after a bumpy start in January. It's been my biggest selling year yet, and I'm looking forward to all that 2020 has in store with the ongoing renaissance taking place in Westhampton Beach. So regardless of the chatter, home purchases continue to be a good investment in the Hamptons.—**Natalie Lewis, The Corcoran Group**

I was surprised by the resilience of the market during a year that struggled. Personally, I had a bidding war on one of my listings in Montauk with only two bedrooms in the main house that sold for almost \$18 million. Another Montauk sale of vacant land nearby sold for \$9 million. It had been on the market previously for several years. A sale of a 4-acre estate in Kean Development's Olde Towne in Southampton Village, that had been asking \$35 million, was later joined by the sale to my same buyer of the adjacent 4-acre vacant lot—that hadn't been officially on the market—for \$13 million. One of my buyers bought one of my listings that came with a renter for around \$10M; and then got an amazing price for an August rental after the tenant vacated.

The rental market for 2020 kicked into gear much earlier this year with some pricey decisions already made for all or part of the summer season. In November and December, I have been seeing some great new deals by brokers all over the market as I too negotiate some of my own listings. I believe you'll see some surprising closings in January/February. This points to great expectations for 2020.—**Gary DePersia, The Corcoran Group**

Our biggest surprise was the incredible amount of real buyer traffic that we have seen and continue to see in third and forth quarters. The real desire to buy has

been across market segments—from entry level homes up to and including the uber-luxury markets! This has been especially exciting coming off a slow summer.

Two of our closings were on properties that were shown to buyers once and went into contract at full or near-full ask!

Our outlook for 2020 is cautiously optimistic. Sellers have been listening to the experts, and have gotten more realistic about appropriately adjusting and pricing according to market value and demand. This creates more opportunity, allowing buyers to be more responsive and they are making offers.—**Nicole Tunick and Zachary Tunick, Douglas Elliman**

The biggest surprise this year was, without question, the way the market shifted into a gallop as the leaves began to fall. While we heard from many of our colleagues that the market languished well into summer, this was a fall to remember. Strong. Active. Solid. Exciting.

We'll leave it to the pundits to explain the many variables that led to this upturn, but for now we are pleased to have shared our confidence in the Hamptons market with our many sellers and buyers alike. Serious sellers are getting solid offers, and buyers are getting fair value. A balanced market is always our best market.

With this great fall behind us, we head into 2020 with great expectations. We encourage sellers to "Get Real." Let your brokers list your home at a reasonable price—the most important thing you can do to get this behind you. Buyers, do all the homework you want, but trust your broker to lead you to a reasonable offer. You can and will get fair value in this active market.

All in all, we want to be the first to declare that we honestly believe that the market we're heading into will one day be remembered as the roaring '20s.—**Ann Ciardullo and Keith Green, Sotheby's International Realty**

The market was brisk at the start of 2019! I found the political environment took a bit of a toll on the market. That said, 2020 is poised to be a stellar year. Global tensions are easing, and consumer confidence is expected to be on the upswing. I wish everyone a joyous holiday season, and I look forward to seeing you all in 2020!—**Sherri Winter Parker, The Corcoran Group**

I was pleased to see that the number of transactions and pricing were not substantially affected by weakness in our feeder markets. The price range from \$750,000 to \$1 million saw a large increase in activity when compared to years past. Buyers below \$1 million were more selective and negotiated harder than in the previous two years. What surprised me was to see that

the number of closings and contracts written over \$1 million are down about 20% in 2019. The highest price paid for a luxury residential home on the North Fork was \$3,025,000 according to MLS data. Years past have seen more activity above that price point. Development Rights Intact Land and commercial property saw an increase in activity and interest.

Looking forward, the North Fork market will remain busy below \$1 million. Above \$1 million will continue to be impacted by the challenges of the loss of SALT deductions. Interest in Development Rights Intact land and commercial property will remain as strong as it was this year.—**Thomas McCloskey, Douglas Elliman**

First, I am very excited to enter into 2020. I think we have overcome a lot of uncertainty and we are at a great time in history in the market with low interest rates, good inventory, and an extraordinary place to live and enjoy life.

I think the biggest surprise/happening in the market in 2019 was how the crazy increase in the stock market did not translate to the confidence in the real estate market. However that ship seems to be turning very slowly and people are finally recognizing the opportunity that exists in Hamptons real estate. Another interesting surprise was how the new rental law which was clearly designed for year-round tenants, but also applied to our season rentals created such a disruption. We are all complying however and are very excited to move to a very successful 2020!—**Martha Gundersen, Douglas Elliman**

After more than three decades as a broker on the East End, this is the first time I can recall Wall Street hit a series of records in 2019 yet the luxury market on the east end was soft. I used to say our markets were "umbilically" connected—I can't say that after this year, in my opinion the geopolitical climate changed the game rules here.

As we enter 2020, the uncertainty of our agreements with Mexico and Canada and separately China seem to be finding neutral ground—two of several distractions that hold buyers back from feeling comfortable enough to make such large purchases, which at times is a luxury item.—**Judi Desiderio, Town & Country Real Estate**

For me, 2019 started out with a lot of uncertainties in our marketplace! I love my business, so I just stayed focused and worked harder. I will never forget the Spring season having several listing systems to now use as our tools for information. It was clearly three times the work! Then as the Summer season heated up, finally the market picked up and we saw many listings that were on the market for years finally go to contract and trade. This year is ending much better than it began and I have more closing in December than in the past years.

I believe in 2020 the market will continue with a good balance of inventory and trading at market prices. No one wants to overpay for anything these days when we have access to a wealth of information. New real estate technology is going to come out more than ever in 2020! However, it is based on a year round marketplace and users will still need the insight of a knowledgeable broker in "The Hamptons" Resort market.—**Maryanne Horwath, Douglas Elliman**

With over 20 years in real estate, the biggest surprise for me was the market in 2019. With the economy at an all-time high, low interest rates, record unemployment, low inflation, real estate just didn't mirror what normally should have been an auspicious year as in the past based on the data. There were many theories as to why, i.e. the new salt law to price corrections. However, going into 2020, there has been an upswing in the number of homes going into contract. As such, I feel, the New Year should be strong since most people are now moving from a "wait and see" position to one of wanting to live the Hamptons lifestyle.—**John Christopher, Sotheby's International Real Estate**

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